

# SBK CAPITAL, LLC

1935 GARRAUX ROAD, NORTHWEST  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30327

TEL 404.233.7281

FAX 404.237.3279

August 29, 2000

817 W. PEACHTREE ST., SUITE 700  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30308

TEL 404.724.0027

FAX 509.479.0464

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St., S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Ultra-Wideband ET Docket 98-153

Dear Ms. Salas:

I have been involved in the development, ownership and operation of skilled nursing facilities for 35 years. I am currently a stockholder and member of the Board of Directors of Mariner Post Acute Network, Inc., which operates 400 facilities consisting of over 50,000 beds nationwide. In addition, I have personal ownership of ten facilities consisting of 1,800 beds.

Today we have a serious labor shortage in healthcare, particularly in the area of licensed personnel. There are so many applications of Ultra-Wideband technology that can allow the operating personnel of a skilled nursing facility to be more efficient in providing patient care. There is tremendous monitoring device opportunity that would allow our licensed personnel information concerning a patient from the nursing station. This could include a patient wearing a small lightweight sensor that could send a signal to summon help should the patient fall or lose consciousness. This same device could provide tracking capability for Alzheimer's patients with tendencies to wander.

Ultra-Wideband technology can allow our industry to use all personnel more efficiently in providing quality patient care, and given my years of experience in the industry, I am certain that it can, in fact, save lives.

I urge the FCC to move forward promptly in making a decision. Enhanced efficiency and increased productivity given the scarcity of personnel is needed today to avoid a crisis.

Yours very truly,



Samuel B. Kellett

SBK/lrp

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